



SENATE EDUCATION

EXHIBIT NO. 5DATE 3-19-07BILL NO. HB 363

Since 1868

Fort Benton High School
P.O. BOX 399
1820 Washington, Fort Benton, Montana 59442

March 19, 2007

TO: Members of Senate Education and Cultural Resources Committee

FROM: Bob Anderson, Superintendent Fort Benton Schools

RE: HB 363 Rep. John Ward "An act revising school district general fund budget limitations."

On behalf of the Trustees of Fort Benton School District #1, I support HB 363. This Bill allows approximately 80 school district to receive legislative allocations for programs supported by the legislature following the Montana Supreme Court ruling on school funding. These programs include funding for Indian Education for All, Quality Educator Entitlement, and School Maintenance monies. Without this legislation these school would essentially face these mandates without the funding to satisfy both Court and Legislative direction. Without HB 363 passage by this legislature Fort Benton School Districts would suffer nearly a \$190,000 loss.

We encourage you to support HB 363 and pass on it early so these school districts have an idea about what kind of mill levy election to run by March 29th. Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

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